



For immediate release  
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**Missouri's adjusted jobless rate decreased in January**  
***First rise in employment since February 2001***

According to the latest employment and unemployment data released by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED), the state's unemployment rate increased by five-tenths of a percentage point from 4.8 percent in December to 5.3 percent in January.

Taking into account usual seasonal changes in unemployment, however, Missouri's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate actually fell to 4.7 percent in January from a revised December rate of 4.9 percent. The seasonally adjusted figure is calculated by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics to account for regular increases or decreases that historically affect the unemployment rate at the same time each year.

Likewise on the national level, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point from 5.8 percent in December 2001 to 5.6 percent in January 2002.

Non-farm payroll employment increased by 8,400, on a seasonally adjusted basis, to 2,703,600 in January -- the first rise since February 2001. The increase came primarily in retail trade, health services, and state and local government.

Manufacturing employment (not seasonally adjusted) was down by about 3,600 jobs to 364,400 in January. A temporary inventory-adjustment layoff at an automobile plant contributed to this decrease. Construction employment dropped by 7,300 jobs, a typical seasonal decrease for January.

"We are pleased to once again experience a decrease in the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, as well as an increase in employment," said DED Director Joseph L. Driskill. "But the seasonal factors that tend to drive employment levels during this time of year have been affected by an unusually warm winter and lower employment levels in previous months caused by the nation's recession and the events of September 11. The increase in the state's unadjusted unemployment rate reminds us that we must continue to monitor these statistics very cautiously over the next few months in order to make an accurate determination of Missouri's labor conditions."

Over-the-year job losses remain significant. Across all industries, employment is down by 41,700 jobs (1.5 percent) from January 2001. Construction; eating and drinking places; finance, insurance, and real estate; health services; and local government, including public schools, all have higher employment than a year ago, totaling 21,200 jobs. Job losses in virtually every other industry, including 26,600 in manufacturing alone, far outweighed these gains, however.

*NOTE: Data used in this release incorporate the benchmark and other revisions usually introduced at this time. Because of these revisions, data may be different than the values previously reported. Substate labor force data shown on the back have been revised but are provisional: not yet official and subject to change.*

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MISSOURI UNEMPLOYMENT RATES  
FOR METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS (MSAs), LABOR MARKET AREAS (LMAs), AND COUNTIES  
CURRENT MONTH (JANUARY 2002), PREVIOUS TWO MONTHS (NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2001), AND YEAR AGO (JANUARY 2001)

	JAN 2002	DEC 2001	NOV 2001	JAN 2001		JAN 2002	DEC 2001	NOV 2001	JAN 2001
U.S. (not seasonally adjusted)	6.3	5.4	5.3	4.7	Atchison	3.4	2.8	2.9	2.8
MISSOURI	5.3	4.8	4.7	5.1	Audrain	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.1
ST. LOUIS MSA	5.3	4.9	4.9	5.0	Barton	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.6
Franklin	5.8	5.1	4.8	6.8	Bates	6.6	6.3	5.9	7.3
Jefferson	5.1	4.6	4.5	5.7	Benton	9.5	8.8	8.7	10.3
Lincoln	7.7	5.1	4.8	7.0	Caldwell	7.7	7.1	6.2	7.8
St. Charles	4.4	3.5	3.5	3.3	Carroll	4.8	4.5	4.0	5.3
St. Louis County	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.6	Cedar	5.2	4.6	4.4	5.6
Warren	7.6	5.3	4.8	6.7	Chariton	6.2	5.6	6.6	6.8
St. Louis City	8.1	8.3	8.5	7.5	Clark	8.9	7.5	7.6	9.6
KANSAS CITY MSA	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.4	Cooper	5.6	6.2	5.9	5.5
Cass	4.0	3.5	3.5	4.1	Crawford	7.4	6.6	6.4	7.9
Clay	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	Dade	4.9	4.6	4.3	5.8
Clinton	4.4	3.8	3.6	4.2	Dallas	9.1	9.5	7.6	8.0
Jackson	4.9	5.0	5.1	4.6	Daviess	5.1	4.8	4.3	6.5
Lafayette	4.6	4.1	4.0	5.0	DeKalb	7.4	6.6	6.1	6.3
Platte	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.9	Dent	8.5	8.7	8.4	10.4
Ray	4.0	3.4	3.3	5.0	Douglas	13.1	13.0	11.9	11.1
SPRINGFIELD MSA	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.7	Dunklin	8.0	8.0	6.8	7.1
Christian	4.9	3.6	3.3	5.0	Gasconade	6.7	5.2	5.2	6.0
Greene	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3	Gentry	4.4	3.6	3.7	4.5
Webster	4.7	4.2	4.2	5.1	Grundy	5.0	5.1	4.7	4.4
JOPLIN MSA	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	Harrison	4.9	3.6	3.1	5.2
Jasper	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	Henry	6.8	6.0	5.8	6.1
Newton	4.3	4.7	5.0	4.6	Hickory	10.0	9.4	8.5	12.5
COLUMBIA MSA	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.8	Holt	4.3	3.7	3.6	5.0
Boone	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.8	Howard	4.8	4.9	4.6	5.9
ST. JOSEPH MSA	5.9	5.5	5.5	4.9	Iron	7.6	8.2	7.6	9.0
Andrew	5.7	4.8	4.3	4.9	Johnson	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.8
Buchanan	6.0	5.7	5.7	4.9	Knox	4.7	3.1	3.3	6.9
ADAIR-SCHUYLER LMA	4.2	3.1	4.8	4.9	Laclede	6.8	6.7	6.4	8.0
Adair	3.8	2.9	4.8	4.1	Lewis	4.5	4.7	4.8	5.0
Schuyler	6.6	4.0	5.2	9.0	Linn	8.6	8.5	11.1	8.7
BUTLER-CARTER-RIPLEY LMA	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	Livingston	3.8	3.1	2.9	4.7
Butler	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.0	McDonald	5.5	6.0	5.9	4.6
Carter	7.7	7.6	6.9	8.4	Macon	9.3	8.2	8.4	14.3
Ripley	7.0	7.0	9.0	7.4	Madison	9.9	9.8	8.8	9.6
CAMDEN-MILLER LMA	10.9	8.5	7.0	10.8	Mercer	4.1	4.3	3.6	4.9
Camden	10.7	8.7	7.0	10.2	Monroe	7.6	6.6	6.0	9.1
Miller	11.2	8.3	7.1	11.6	Montgomery	7.8	6.3	5.3	6.6
CAPE GIRARDEAU-SCOTT-NEW MADRID LMA	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.5	Morgan	9.8	8.9	7.8	9.6
Bollinger	9.6	9.8	9.6	8.0	Nodaway	1.8	1.4	1.3	2.1
Cape Girardeau	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.9	Ozark	8.2	7.1	6.0	8.5
Mississippi	8.9	9.7	8.8	9.7	Pemiscot	10.4	11.0	10.1	9.4
New Madrid	8.1	7.9	7.2	7.1	Perry	3.5	3.3	3.7	4.4
Scott	6.1	5.8	6.2	6.0	Pettis	7.6	7.6	8.0	5.0
COLE-CALLAWAY-MONITEAU LMA	3.6	3.2	3.0	3.6	Pike	6.5	6.1	5.8	5.9
Callaway	4.1	3.8	3.5	3.5	Polk	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.2
Cole	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.8	Pulaski	6.2	5.8	5.4	8.2
Moniteau	4.3	4.0	3.9	4.9	Putnam	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.9
Osage	5.3	4.2	3.9	6.0	Randolph	6.0	5.5	4.6	7.5
HOWELL-OREGON-SHANNON LMA	6.0	5.4	5.2	5.9	Reynolds	12.4	13.6	11.1	11.3
Howell	5.7	5.0	4.6	5.6	St. Clair	5.1	5.4	4.7	6.1
Oregon	5.2	4.6	4.6	4.4	Ste. Genevieve	6.2	5.3	4.6	6.9
Shannon	8.2	7.8	8.7	8.4	Saline	5.8	6.3	6.4	3.5
LAWRENCE-BARRY LMA	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.3	Scotland	6.6	4.3	4.1	7.0
Barry	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.6	Shelby	7.9	6.1	5.8	8.5
Lawrence	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.0	Stoddard	8.5	7.4	6.6	9.0
MARION-RALLS LMA	5.8	5.3	5.0	6.3	Stone	22.8	8.6	6.8	24.4
Marion	5.7	5.3	4.9	6.2	Sullivan	4.1	3.3	3.2	4.1
Ralls	5.9	5.3	5.2	6.7	Taney	20.4	5.1	3.9	22.4
PHELPS-MARIES LMA	4.1	3.5	3.3	4.2	Texas	8.0	7.7	8.3	8.2
Maries	5.6	4.4	3.8	5.6	Vernon	4.8	4.6	3.7	3.9
Phelps	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.8	Wayne	12.9	12.8	10.8	12.5
ST. FRANCOIS-WASHINGTON LMA	8.6	8.2	7.5	9.3	Worth	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.8
St. Francois	7.8	7.8	7.2	8.5	Wright	10.8	10.7	9.8	11.5
Washington	10.7	9.2	8.1	11.3					

NOTE: DATA FOR COUNTIES WITHIN MSAs/LMAs ARE DISAGGREGATED FROM MSA/LMA TOTALS.

NOTE: 2001 DATA FOR SUBSTATE AREAS HAVE BEEN REVISED BUT ARE PROVISIONAL: NOT YET OFFICIAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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